

Fast Facts: Beekeeping

Residents ARE permitted to keep apiaries if they comply with the following:

For further information
contact:

City of Knoxville
Office of Sustainability
Sustainability@knoxvilletn.gov
Room 503, City County Building
Phone: 865-215-2065
Fax: 865-215-3035

- Register all new apiaries with the Tennessee Department of Agriculture
- Hives may ONLY be in side or rear yards
- Hives MUST be at least fifteen (15) feet from public sidewalks or lot lines, unless the yard is fenced in by a solid wall or opaque fence
- Hive openings must face away from the closest neighboring lot
- Hives must have a fresh water supply located on property
- Rooftop apiaries within twenty (20) feet of the doors and/or windows of the main building on the neighboring lot MUST have a:
 - Hive opening facing away from doors and/or windows of the building
 - Flyaway at least six (6) feet tall made of a latticed fence, dense hedge, or other barrier
 - Must be located within three (3) feet of the hive opening
 - Must extend at least two (2) feet in width on either side of the hive opening

